

USACE FINANCE CENTER
BIWEEKLY REPORT
PERIOD ENDING 12 NOVEMBER 1999

CEFMS:

CEFMS ISSUES:

a. CEFMS functionality that provides for Automated MIPR's (Funds Transfer and Acceptance) between USACE locations appears to be working well. To date, 379 MIPR's have been sent and 380 have been accepted and /or rejected. These numbers will most likely be different throughout this fiscal year due to the documents that were in transit or being processed at the time of implementation and the learning/acceptance curve associated with new functionality.

b. Mary Young, CEFMS Team member, attended the Operating Budget Review (results from mini-strap) meeting in HQUSACE last week. There appears to be a "disconnect" between the Operating Budget folks and the Manpower folks on the "expected" results from the output of the mini-strap. Their first priorities are not in the budget area, but are in MANPOWER. Dana Spriggs is a part of the special review group representing the field RMB's. The following is taken from his message to the field requesting their input:

QUOTE-----"The effort of the review group will be instrumental in moving forward now that the Operating Budget and Manpower Mini-STRAP have been completed. For your information these are the priorities stated by that group which will direct the effort of the contractor:

1. Manpower Integration with Budget Process
 - a. Manpower Planning - Expansion of Labor Worksheet
 - b. Manpower Tracking
 - c. Manpower Manning Document
 - d. Manpower Allocation
 - e. Change name of processes to Resource Allocation Planning (RAP)
2. Fix De-obligation Problem "Direct Fund Cite - reflect memo obligations to direct cited funds."
3. Reports (both local use and upward)
 - a. Capable to rollup resource codes to higher level
 - b. Fix outstanding report issues

4. Ability for RMB and Division to review and consolidate data from multiple databases
5. All CEFMS databases are linked for electronic transfers (cross-leveling to facilitate RMB)
6. Implement non-labor worksheets
7. Improve Income worksheets
8. Implement a "criteria" module (budget and manpower)
 - a. Evaluation against criteria during both formulation and execution
 - b. "Turbo-tax" like feature
 - c. During formulation phase need to calculate the "Cost of Doing Business" factors.
9. Affordability Analysis - FTE, training, travel
10. Unfunded Requirements (UFRs)
11. Capital Asset Functionality
12. Have "Process Flow" be supported by system ("interview" like process)-----END QUOTE.

Rusty Lundy will be attending a manpower meeting in HQUSACE next week and we expect they may have different priorities. Having two groups with different priorities will certainly add to the difficulty of our CEFMS programming mission. If we are not careful we can be working the "wrong" priority. The Budget and Manpower folks need to come to agreement on how they want the system to function in an integrated environment.

c. The Army Criminal Investigation Division (CID) who is performing an investigation emanating from the Los Angeles District contacted us this week. Quite a few folks in the district have had their personal credit cards used by unauthorized users. The CID's first lead is that an employee's name, SSN, and home address could be retrieved through a CEFMS training form. With this information, personal credit card information can be obtained. We are working with LA district and the CID to provide/obtain the information needed for the investigation. We are also researching the training forms to determine if we can protect this information. There will be more to come on this topic.

d. OTHER CEFMS ISSUES:

(1) We are currently engaged with on-site auditors from AAA, GAO, and Price Waterhouse who are working on the FY 99 CFO audit for security of financial data. This phase of the audit is expected to last until 17 Dec. We are providing briefings, documentation, answering questions, and writing queries to provide requested information.

(2) We presented the CEFMS overview to a team from NASA.

(3) We also presented the CEFMS overview to AAA representatives that are working on Asset Management for the CFO Audit.

(4) Participated in the training provided to the Headquarters Finance and Accounting Division last week. We provided training on Operating Budgets and Manpower.

PROBLEM REPORTS/IMBALANCES:

a. The open problem report inventory is 789 versus 805 on the last report. The inventory includes 82 Priority #1 problem reports. The open inventory also includes 3 problem reports related to the CEFMS Modernization/GUI work management effort.

b. Forty-three (43) of the sixty-three databases have no imbalances, three (3) have one, four (4) have two, one (1) has three, an additional seven (7) sites have nine or less, and only four sites have more than ten. The grand total of database imbalances across the system is 109.

ACCOUNTING OPERATIONS:

CONSOLIDATION OF OPERATING FINANCE AND ACCOUNTING FUNCTIONS:

UPCOMING CONSOLIDATIONS:

----CURRENT SCHEDULE COMPLETE----

NUMBER AND LOCATION OF ON BOARD PERSONNEL:

<u>LOCATION:</u>	<u>NUMBER:</u>
Huntsville	27
Millington	280
Washington	2
Other	1
DA Interns (Millington)	3
Total	313

DISBURSING WORKLOAD DATA:

PAYMENTS BY CHECK:	As of 10/28/99	Current Month	Year To Date
Checks Issued	23,172	12,745	35,917
Percent of Total	56%	52%	55%
Dollar Amount	\$259,373,826	\$135,325,890	\$394,699,716

BY EFT:			
Transfers Made	18,214	11,592	29,806
Percent of Total	44%	48%	45%
Dollar Amount	\$318,536,630	\$211,643,271	\$530,179,901

OTHER UFC ISSUES:

a. On Monday 1 November 1999, an eight-member team of DFAS-Indianapolis personnel arrived at the UFC for the purpose of developing a Business Case for UFC capitalization, in response to questions from Mr. Ernie Gregory. We first presented the DFAS team overviews of CEFMS, UFC consolidation, and the UFC Directorate of Accounting Operations. Following these presentations, we provided the DFAS team copies of our answers to their 67 questions previously submitted to us regarding Workload and Work Content, Unit Cost and Customer Reimbursement, Cost/Manpower, Business Processes, and Systems. After reviewing our answers to these questions, the DFAS team requested a more detailed presentation of CEFMS functionality and the business processes under CEFMS, which we provided on Tuesday morning. Over the following two and a half days the DFAS team met with various members of the UFC staff for further, in depth discussions of our answers to the DFAS questionnaire. At 1500 hours on 4 November 1999, we met with the DFAS team for an exit conference prior to their departure that same afternoon. The DFAS team furnished no specifics regarding the results of their visit, other than stating that a report providing the Business Case should be issued to Mr. Gregory within two to three weeks. Based on our interaction with the DFAS team members during their time at the UFC, we sensed nothing that was viewed by the team as negative or critical of UFC operations. In addition, the DFAS team provided no arguments to support capitalization, other than reference to DMRD 910.

b. We completed CEFMS training for seven personnel from Headquarters F & A Division from 1-5 November. The training included a general overview of CEFMS tables, access controls, interfaces, work management, funding, disbursing, travel, budget, manpower, etc. We also included training on CEFMS reporting and query capabilities. The training was designed to increase the

headquarters' personnel's knowledge of CEFMS and the system's capabilities; and provide tools that can be used to query CEFMS and tailor the results to individual needs.

c. We are working with Federal Reserve Bank (FRB) to complete the Y2K FedLine software testing for transmitting EFT payments: John Hughes (CEFMS) will transmit EFT files through the UFC (Millington) FedLine software link for the Y2k testing during his visit 15-19 November. We are confident that the testing will confirm that the CEFMS generated EFT files will meet FRB Y2K compliance.

d. The UFC hosted a meeting requested by DFAS-IN on the implementation of the Defense Cash Accountability System (DCAS) in USACE. In addition to DFAS-IN, we had USACE representatives from the Pacific Ocean Division, Transatlantic Program Center and the Europe District who along with the UFC will implement DCAS. DCAS will eventually replace all current DFAS reporting systems for disbursing, cross disbursing and TFO/TBO/Interfund transactions for Military appropriations. Upon arrival, DFAS-IN informed the group that they have delayed implementation for USACE until the 3rd quarter of FY00. Training scheduled for December 1999 will be delayed. The meeting was not a complete loss as the USACE attendees were provided the technical requirements to operate DCAS. We informed the DFAS-IN DCAS team that USACE might not be able to implement DCAS until the 4th quarter of FY00 due to the CEFMS GUI conversion. The DFAS team did not seem to have a problem with 4th quarter implementation for the USACE.

e. In early October 1999, the UFC was notified by DFAS-IN that the date for submission of the Military ICAR 218 and 112 reports would move from the 5th to the 3rd work day beginning with the November submission of October reports. With the new DFAS reporting requirement, the UFC combined our revolving fund and military field accounting report units. We combined these two units because we have more flexibility with revolving fund report due dates than with civil accounting reports. We immediately began in-house cross training for our accountants on the different reports. Our accountants at the UFC were eager for the training and the challenge. We met the 3rd business workday submission requirement but DFAS did not have their programs available until the 7th calendar day. When we were able to pull the DFAS data, we experienced systems, table and accounting problems with the DFAS systems. It is difficult to know if all corrections are properly updated with their system. We are confident that DFAS will resolve their problems before the December report submission.